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Nevadans agree with court on gun ownership

By KRISTL JOURDAN
LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

In a place where gun ranges advertise assault rifles and machine guns on billboards and taxicab doors, it's clear Nevadans like their guns.

Almost four in five registered voters questioned in a poll taken for the Las Vegas Review-Journal and KLAS-TV, Channel 8, said they agree with a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that gun ownership is a fundamental right for all law-abiding citizens. Fifteen percent said they disagreed with the ruling and 6 percent were unsure.

Among Republicans, 93 percent agreed with the ruling; among independents, it was 82 percent; and 64 percent among Democrats.

More men, 84 percent, than women, 74 percent, said they agreed that the Second Amendment ruling was right.

A total of 625 registered voters statewide participated in the two-day telephone poll from July 12-14. All said they vote regularly in state elections.

David Damore, a political science professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, said gun control issues have faded to the background as more pressing economic and political matters have taken the spotlight.

"The Democrats just gave up" on gun control, Damore said. "At the end of the day, Nevada prides itself on libertarianism, and no politicians will risk it."

Maggie McLetchie, a staff attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union of Nevada, said her organization supports an individual's right to bear arms.

"The Nevada Constitution has long been more expansive than federal provisions," McLetchie said. "The state constitution protects an individual's right, and it's reflective of Nevadans who value civil liberties."

Bob Irwin, owner of The Gun Store, said the polling results are not surprising because the Founding Fathers "made their intent clear in the Constitution."

"You're dealing with guys who had just finished throwing off a British tyranny with guns. If they hadn't, we'd be counting our change in shillings and speaking with British accents," Irwin said.

"If you don't have a right to a gun, you don't have the right to defend your own life. You have a basic right to survive and to protect yourself and your family from criminals."

It's tough to find organized groups in Nevada who disagree with the high court ruling. The nationwide Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence doesn't have a local chapter or contact listed on its website.

"The Supreme Court ruling is a disappointment," said Patti Koltzow, executive director of Women Against Gun Violence, which is based in Los Angeles. "We know that increasing handgun ownership increases the likelihood of homicides, murders and unintentional shootings. Statistics prove that over and over again.

"Some people think that having a gun makes them safer, but that's been proven not to be the case."

Contact Kristi Jourdan at kjourdan@reviewjournal.com or 702-383-0279.

Find this article at:

<http://www.lvrj.com/news/nevadans-agree-with-court-on-gun-ownership-98730109.html>



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THE FIRING LINE

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By KRISTI JOURDAN

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

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* Opinion Polls

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LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL and KLAS-TV, CHANNEL 8

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The Firing Line

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Topic	Replies	Created	Last reply
HEY KANSAS!	0	5 weeks 1 hour ago by Clay Cooper	n/a
coyote aftermath	8	1 year 2 weeks ago by jlboles	5 weeks 23 hours ago by Skeeb
.338 lapua or .50 bmg	7	31 weeks 5 days ago by ARhunter	5 weeks 3 days ago by Clay Cooper
1971 Marlin 444S Lever Action Rifle	0	5 weeks 3 days ago by bigbrian425	n/a
Left-handed 30-06 choices	7	6 weeks 5 days ago by motojosh	6 weeks 1 hour ago by Beekeeper
Long Range .22lr Shooting	5	9 weeks 22 hours ago by lovetohunt	6 weeks 22 hours ago by Clay Cooper
new handgun owners, shooters	12	6 weeks 5 days ago by 007	6 weeks 1 day ago by Moishe
Distraught man gets guns back with the Help of the ACLU.	3	7 weeks 2 days ago by gibr22	6 weeks 1 day ago by shane
browning a bolt 25-06	7	31 weeks 6 days ago by jon 14	6 weeks 1 day ago by Moishe
.243 brilliance or madness	43	41 weeks 5 days ago by bighunter	6 weeks 1 day ago by Moishe
New York: Weapons ban removed from Ogdensburg city policy	4	8 weeks 4 days ago by Clay Cooper	6 weeks 3 days ago by Treestand
Best Elk Rifle?	93	1 year 35 weeks ago by Rick	6 weeks 5 days ago by motojosh
Winchester XP3 Bullets	0	7 weeks 8 hours ago by spark30	n/a
Petzal: Five in One (Hole*, That Is) FOOD FOR THOUGHT!	20	9 weeks 6 days ago by Clay Cooper	7 weeks 1 day ago by machinegunner
What bullet to use for Montana Whitetail trip	11	8 weeks 4 days ago by leoorl	7 weeks 1 day ago by leoorl
Nevadans agree with court on gun ownership	0	7 weeks 5 days ago by Clay Cooper	n/a
Doctors Versus Guns	10	26 weeks 3 days ago by DakotaMan	7 weeks 6 days ago by MPN
old shotgun	6	8 weeks 4 days ago by 264 winmag	7 weeks 6 days ago by BuckMaster4
old tradional muzzelloaders or the new inlines	10	38 weeks 21 hours ago by shermanator	7 weeks 6 days ago by 007
This is why I put 2 pieces 90 degrees of each other of electrical tape over my muzzle!	11	12 weeks 3 days ago by Clay Cooper	8 weeks 2 days ago by Clay Cooper
Duratouch	0	8 weeks 5 days ago by Squash11	n/a
H&R 22's	0	8 weeks 5 days ago by cmikies1	n/a
what do you think	4	40 weeks 3 days ago by mosinman123	8 weeks 6 days ago by countitandone
Shotgun Reloads	3	9 weeks 2 days ago by bshagopian	9 weeks 5 hours ago by FirstBubba
Sabots only in a Muzzle Loader are lethal!!	2	9 weeks 3 days ago by Clay Cooper	9 weeks 18 hours ago by whitetailfreek

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